GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2143
ANSWERED ON:16.12.2003
TRAINING TO ELECTED OFFICIALS FROM MUNICIPALITIES AND CORPORATIONS
AMBATI BRAHMANAIAH

Will the Minister of URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has plans to train elected officials from municipalities and corporations all over the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether there is any system or institution presently in place which can help urban elected officials to learn of their job, duties and also the policies of the Government ;

(d) if so, the names of such institutions under the aegis of the Government;

(e) whether the Government propose to encourage the establishment of more such institutions for the purpose;

(f) if so, the details thereof; and

(g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT AND POVERTY ALLEVIATION (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a)to(d): The Ministry of Urban Development & Poverty Alleviation has already set up three Regional Centres for Urban and Environmental Studies (RCUES) at Lucknow,Hyderabad and Mumbai and one Centre for Urban Studies in New Delhi for providing training to the elected officials of the urban local bodies in the country to learn their job, duties and the policies of the Government. Besides, the National Institute of UrbanAffairs (NIUA), New Delhi and the Humansettlement and Management Institute (HSMI),New Delhi, which are under the aegis of this Ministry, have also been conducting periodical training programmes for the elected officials of urban local bodies. NIUA has a network of 14 training institutions through which it conducts regular training programmes on various aspects of municipal governance to develop the capacity of municipal officials as well as elected representatives. In addition to this, NIUA also organizes special conferences/workshops/seminars focusing on the capacity building of elected representatives.

The Constitution (74th Amendment) Act, 1992 provides for one-third reservation for women in urban local bodies for empowerment of women at the grass-root level of self-governance in the country. This Ministry is providing financial support to the State-level institutes through the State Governments to train the elected women councillors of urban local bodies as a measure of enhancing their capacity.

(e)to(g): No need has been felt to establish more institutions for providing training to the elected officials of of urban local bodies as in most of the States there are State-level institutions for this purpose. The institutes/centres under the aegis of this Ministry have been conducting regular training programmes in coordination with the apex institutes in the State. Hence, instead of creating new institutional set-ups, this Ministry has been extending more and more functional and financial supports to the existing set of institutes to strengthen them for the purpose of providing training to the elected representatives and non-elected officials in urban local bodies.